

Free Tax Help program

Tax Help is a network of community volunteers who provide a free and confidential service to help people complete their tax returns during tax time. Volunteers are fully trained, accredited and supported by the Australian Tax Office.

Tax Help is suitable for people earning \$50,000 or less a year with fairly straightforward tax affairs.

Volunteers operate from 1 July until 31 October in all capital cities and many regional areas, from convenient locations in the community such as libraries, community centres and migrant resource centres.

Who is Tax Help for?

Free Tax Help is for people on low incomes, including:

- seniors
- students
- people from non-English speaking backgrounds
- people with a disability
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

Since tax can be complex, volunteers are only able to help with fairly straightforward tax returns. They can help identify and record income received through:

- pensions
- Australian government benefits and allowances, such as unemployment and sickness benefits
- salary or wages
- dividends
- managed funds
- interest

Are you eligible for Tax Help?

You are eligible for Tax Help if your income is around \$50,000 or less for the income year and **none** of the following situations applied to you in the income year:

- You were employed as a contractor - for example, a contract cleaner or taxi driver.
- You were in business, including being a sole trader.
- You sold shares.
- You sold an investment property.
- You owned a rental property.
- You received royalties.
- You received distributions from a trust other than a managed fund.
- You received foreign income other than a foreign pension or annuity.

Tax Help volunteers **cannot** help you with:

- business tax returns
- partnership and trust matters
- capital gains tax (CGT)
- rental properties.

What to do next

Once you have worked out if you are eligible for the Tax Help program and want to make an appointment, phone the ATO on **13 28 61**.

Tax Help is only available in July to October each year.

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